

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 143772

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, WA, SF, AO

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: MESSAGE TO ANGOLANS

YOU SHOULD PROMPTLY APPROACH FOREIGN MINISTER JORGE AND
ASK THAT HE CONVEY THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO PRIME
MINISTER NETO:

--AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE UNITED STATES HAS, TOGETHER WITH
OTHER WESTERN MEMBERS OF THE CONTACT GROUP, FOR OVER A
YEAR SOUGHT TO DEVELOP A PROPOSAL FOR THE PEACEFUL
TRANSITION OF NAMIBIA TO INDEPENDENCE. THAT PROPOSAL
IS ON THE TABLE. SOUTH AFRICA HAS ACCEPTED IT, AND SWAPO
CONTINUES TO CONSIDER IT.

--WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS MAY BE
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MEETING SOON WITH PRESIDENT NUJOMA TO DISCUSS THE
PROPOSAL AND WE WARMLY WELCOME THIS EFFORT ON THE PART
OF THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS. THE CONTACT GROUP OVER
THE COURSE OF MANY MONTHS AND THROUGH A VARIETY OF
COMMUNICATIONS HAS DESCRIBED THE PROPOSAL AND ITS
SIGNIFICANCE TO ANGOLA AND TO THE OTHER FRONT LINE STATES.

GOVERNMENT OF ANGOLA THE FAIRNESS AND TIMELINESS OF THE PROPOSAL, BUT ALSO TO RECALL THE ADVANTAGES THAT A PROMPT SETTLEMENT OF THE NAMIBIAN QUESTION HOLDS FOR THE PEACE AND STABILITY OF ANGOLA. IF THE PROPOSAL IS ADOPTED, ONE EARLY CONSEQUENCE WILL BE THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS FROM THE NAMIBIAN/ANGOLAN FRONTIER AND THEIR REPLACEMENT BY UN FORCES. MOREOVER, ANGOLA'S POSITIVE ASSOCIATION WITH A SUCCESSFUL AND PEACEFUL RESOLUTION TO THE NAMIBIAN QUESTION CANNOT BUT HAVE BENEFICIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF US-ANGOLAN RELATIONS.

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